

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT

Ms. Linda Mangrum
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Remedial Enforcement Support Section
77 W. Jackson Blvd., SR-6J
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Re: USS Lead Refinery, Inc. ("USS Lead") Response to Request for Information ("Request")

Dear Ms. Mangrum:

USS Lead hereby responds to the U.S. EPA, Region 5, Request dated December 12, 2006, that was transmitted to Robert N. Steinwurtzel. The Request was received by Mr. Steinwurtzel on December 18, 2006. Hence, this response is timely.

As an initial matter, please correct your records so that all correspondence related to USS Lead is directed to USS Lead. A copy of all correspondence decade the be provided to Mr. Steinwurtzel.

The "Site History Elements" and the "Questions" contained in the Request reference an entity named "U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc." USS Lead is not aware of such an entity. For purposes of this response and based upon your discussion with Mr. Steinwurtzel, USS Lead understands that EPA's Request is directed to "USS Lead Refinery, Inc."

The December 12 Request omitted Enclosure 3. Enclosure 3 is the "Instructions" to assist USS Lead in responding to the Request. For purposes of this response and based upon your discussion with Mr. Steinwurtzel, USS Lead understands that the relevant time period is "1945 to present" for the purpose of responding to the Questions contained in the Request.

Based upon your email to Mr. Steinwurtzel dated January 10, 2007, USS Lead understands that Questions #7, 8, 9 and 9 (sic) seek information only with respect to equipment at the facility for the purpose of battery or metal reclamation/recycling. Specifically, EPA is seeking information related to arrangements (loans, financing, or exchanges) with other parties that resulted in the acquisition, placement or use of equipment at the facility for battery or metal reclamation/recycling.

Finally, USS Lead incorporates the objections to the Request that were asserted in its prior letter dated October 26, 2005 that was submitted in response to a previous Information Request dated September 22, 2005. EPA has not replied to those objections nor has the agency corrected the administrative record to address the errors noted in the October 26 correspondence.

1

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions regarding this response.

Sincerely yours,

USS Lead Refinery, Inc.

By: Norman 5. Johnson

Vice-President

Attachment



USS LEAD'S RESPONSE TO EPA'S INFORMATION REQUEST



Ouestion No. 1

Identify all persons consulted in the preparation of the answers to these questions.

RESPONSE:

The following individual was consulted in the preparation of this response to the Request for Information:

Arava Natural Resources Company Inc., whose business address is 5527 W Consumers Road, Helper, UT 84526 and business telephone number is 435/472-3372.

s home address is UT 84542 and his home telephone number is

Question No. 2

Identify all documents consulted answers to these questions, and provide copie of all such documents.

RESPONSE:

In May 1990, a fire destroyed or damaged the main office building at the USS Lead facility where the company's records had been stored after the facility ceased operation in December 1985. Many of the records were destroyed in the fire although there still exists more than 100 "banker" boxes of documents. The surviving records were transported to a facility located in Helper, Utah. EPA reviewed the USS Lead documents before the records were shipped to Utah.

The index to the surviving records was reviewed in order to respond to EPA's Information Request. The review of the index identified several files that may have contained documents responsive to EPA's Information Request. The review of the index and identified files, however, did not disclosure any documents that are responsive to EPA's Information Request.

Question No. 3

If you have reason to believe that there may be persons able to provide a more detailed or more complete response to any question in this Information Request or who may be able to provide additional responsive documents, identify such persons.

RESPONSE:

USS Lead is not aware of any persons who are able to provide a more detailed or complete response to the questions in EPA's Information Request, or who may be able to provide additional responsive documents.

Question No. 4

List your EPA Identification Numbers.

RESPONSE:

The EPA Identification Number for the facility is USEPA ID No. IND 047 030 226.

Question No. 5

Identify the acts or omissions of any person, other than your employees, contractors, or agents, that may have caused the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants that may have migrated to or been deposited upon the Site.

RESPONSE:

USS Lead does not possess information responsive to this question.

Question No. 6

Identify all persons, including current and former employees of your company and its contractors and subcontractors, having knowledge or information about the generation, transportation, treatment, placement, disposal, or other handling of hazardous substances, at the Facility, or the migration or disposal of hazardous substances at the Site.

RESPONSE:

USS Lead has not identified other persons who have information regarding activities related to hazardous substances at the Facility. In implementing the RCRA Administrative Order on Consent, Docket No. V-W-001-04, is cluding performance of the Modified RCRA Facility Investigation, USS Lead retained consumers and tractors who prepared reports for submission to EPA that may contain information regarding migration of hazardous substances. These reports have been submitted to EPA and thus the agency has the names of the consultants who prepared the reports. USS Lead can provide the contact information for these consultants upon request by the agency.

In addition, USS Lead engaged the following two individuals to assist the company in implementing the RCRA Administrative Order on Consent:

Project Manager for years 1998-2001 and
Project Manager for year 2002.

S current home address is

NM 88049.

Project Manager for year 2002.

Project Manager for year 2002.

Project Manager for year 2002.

S current year 2004.

Ouestion No. 7

Did any entity, not defined as U.S. Smelter and Lead in the 1987 and 1989 bankruptcy agreement, (or any entity with a business relationship with U.S. Smelter and Lead) in any way loan, finance, provide or acquire equipment that came to be located at U.S. Smelter and Lead facility, at 5300 Kennedy Avenue, East Chicago, Indiana, and that was or could have been used in any type of battery and/or metal reclamation or recycling process?

RESPONSE:

USS Lead has not identified any entity who loaned, financed, provided or acquired equipment that was used to conduct battery and/or metal reclamation or recycling processes at the facility.

Question No. 8

Please provide or detail the information detailing the operations and use of any equipment through that business relationship at the U.S. Smelter and Lead facility.

RESPONSE:

Please see the response to Question No. 7.

Question No. 9

If the answer to question 7, above, is "yes" please provide the following:

- Information regarding the details of the agreement or sale through which the equipment was provided to U.S. Smelter and Lead. The information should include, but not necessarily be limited to, the date of the agreement, the terms of the agreement, a copy of the agreement, and the motivation for entering into the agreement;
- A description of the equipment that includes it's use, function, manufacturer, sixe, cost and material makeup. Provide any photographs or other documents that depict or describe the equipment.

RESPONSE:

Please see the response to Question No. 7.

Question No. 9 (sic)

Did U.S. Smelter and Lead have any contract agreements with other businesses or entities in which there was either an exchange of materials, equipment and/or services? If so, please provide copies or summaries of these contracts. Summaries should include the name and address of the company and the basis of the exchange. Also, include the start and end dates of the agreements.

RESPONSE:

USS Lead has not identified any contracts for the purchase or use of equipment at its facility to conduct battery and/or metal reclamation or recycling in exchange for services and/or materials.



7

U.S.S. Lead Refinery, Inc. 1400 Beltiine Road #14 Redding, CA 96003



200F 0970 0003 3244 3453



Ms. Linda Mangrum

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Remedial Enforcement Support Section

77 W. Jackson Blvd., SR-6J

Chicago, IL 60604-3590

60604)3511